

Bullet Responses to questions poised to Panel C

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Panel C: Reduce Risks to People, Property and State Interest in the Delta

1. Public Resource Code Section 29702 (c), 85002(g); Water Code Section 85305 (a), 85305 (b).
 - a. Limit urban encroachment into the Secondary Zone to maintain habitat, floodways and buffer between the Primary Zone and urbanization along the rim of the Delta. (Regulation as covered actions; legislation necessary to change designation of Primary Zone and Secondary Zone)

Challenges- Loss of local revenues, property right issues, loss of local planning prerogatives

Benefits-Reduction of flood risks supports habitat, agricultural and recreational values

- b. Comprehensive plan to improve flood protection that incorporates PL-85/99 standard in the Delta for islands without significant populations, infrastructures or threat to water quality (PL-85/99 standards as administered by ACOE and adjusted to changing conditions), dredging for improved water flow in silted channels, plan integrated with urban flood control planning. Higher risk standards for area with higher population, infrastructure and danger to water quality. (legislation for levee \$, designation of beneficiary pays; state needs to support ACOE general dredging permits)

Challenges- Funding, environmental concerns, lack of state agencies' support for dredging; recognize that flood protection is interrelated

Benefits- Protection of property, maintain thru Delta conveyance, reduce impact of flood flows

- c. Maintain flood response at the local level, have integrated regionally with five Delta Counties, and consider formation of Geo Hazard Abatement District (GHAD) to assess beneficiaries for benefits received. Plan of flood response should be coordinated with California Emergency Management Agency but functional control should be at the local/regional level. (Regulation for coordination; legislation/vote for Geo Hazard Abatement District)

Challenges- Obtaining cooperation among local agencies, funding, GHAD viewed as increasing financial obligation of locals

Benefits- More efficient use of funding, less bureaucracy to interfere with flood response, GHAD expands funding opportunities

2. Public Resources Code Section 269702 (d); Water Code Section 85306, 85307 (a), 85307(b), 85309.

a. Complete flood management plan for the Central Valley that incorporates reoperation of reservoirs for more effective flood control and water storage, restore flood plains to take excess flows during high runoff periods, facilitate groundwater recharge, add additional surface storage south of the Delta, employ conjunctive use with existing reservoirs to augment drier year supplies reducing drier year dependency on the Delta. (Regulation for re-op, shift from dry to wet year conveyance, legislation for storage)

Challenges- Cooperation of agencies for re-op (ACOE, power generators, recreation users), funding, and property owners for developing groundwater recharge facilities

Benefits- Increased flood control, water reliability, reduce stress on ecosystem

b. Maintain levee maintenance, adopt 200 yr flood control standard in all urban areas protected by Delta Watershed levees, not just new development; provide access to floodways along San Joaquin River similar to those along Sacramento River; work to improve non project levees by including beneficiaries beyond immediate property owners. (Regulation as allowed by legislation, legislation were not)

Challenges- Funding, acceptance of 200 yr flood protection, establishing floodways along San Joaquin River

Benefits - Improved flood control, minimize risk to people and property, potential groundwater replenishment and additional water supply

c. Local plans of flood control incorporated into a regional plan for flood control with an entity governing the regional response; an effective flood management plan needs emergency co-ordination and stand-by funding to ensure a quick local response to flood threats.

Challenges- Funding, local cooperation for regional coordination,

Benefits- Efficiency, for effective flood fight and protection of people and property

3. Water Code Section 85307 (c), 85307 (d).

a. Evolve levee maintenance to support highway transportation, petroleum, utility, rail and surface water transportation infrastructure, as part of a comprehensive flood plan to protect people, property and maintaining agriculture, recreational and habitat values of an evolving Delta. Successful flood control involves all areas of the Delta, singling out some areas for participation in a flood management plan and not others threatens the survivability of the whole area.

Challenges- Funding, achieving consensus on economic value of Delta agriculture, recreation and tourism to State's economy, overcoming "doom scenario"

Benefits-Protects infrastructure essential to State's economy, protects urban areas,